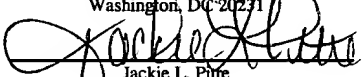


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/744,877
Filed: January 29, 2001
Inventor(s):
Halimaoui et al.

Examiner: Novacek, Christy L.
Group/Art Unit: 2822
Atty. Dkt. No: 5310-03000

**Title: PROCESS FOR FORMING
AN OXIDE LAYER OF
NON-UNIFORM
THICKNESS ON THE
SURFACE OF A SILICON
SUBSTRATE**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
 UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8
 DATE OF DEPOSIT: 11-8-02
 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with
 the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first
 class mail on the date indicated above and is addressed to:
 Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, DC 20231

 Jackie L. Pufe

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Amendment

Sir:

Please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1, 3-7, 9, 11, 12, and 14-17 without prejudice.

11/25/2002	ACANTY	00000002	501505	09744977
01	FD:1202		324.00	CH
02	FD:1201		420.00	CH